

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Disclosed are vectors for cloning and expressing nucleic acid sequences, methods of transfecting cells with these vectors, transfected cells containing these vectors, and antibiotic resistance cassettes. For instance, the vector may include, from upstream to downstream, a first promoter, at least one cloning site, a rat Kv2.1 polyadenylation sequence, and an origin of replication. As another example, the vector includes, from upstream to downstream, a ubiquitin promoter, at least one cloning site, a first polyadenylation sequence, a first origin of replication, at least one SV40 promoter that includes an SV40 origin, a first antibiotic resistance marker, a second polyadenylation sequence, a third polyadenylation sequence, a second origin of replication, and a second antibiotic resistance marker.